Confidential

collection No. 1/38-39

Year 1938-39

CB. 15-38-5.A.7

"B" July 1938

Subject: Copies of letters from Mr. T. Siddalingaiah to Mrs. Kamala devi Chattopadhyaya

CONFIDENTIAL.

Collection No. L/F 38-39

Year 1938—1939.

General and Revenue Secretariat.

EA 15-38-567.

Confidential Branch.

B. July 1938.

SUBJECT .... Copies of Letter from Mr. T. Siddalingaiah to Mrs. Hamid dere Chalto Road Ayi.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.	LATER REFERENCES

Secret
D.O.No.F.100/1938.

Bangalore, 23rd July 1938.

C.S/65

C.S./5-38-5

My dear Kesava iengar.

In continuation of my demi-official letter No.F.100/1938, dated the 19th July 1938, I am desired to enclose for the information of the Government of Mysore a copy of a letter dated the 12th July 1938 from T. Siddalingiah, B.A.,B.L., President, Mysore State Congress, Balapet, Bangalore City, to Mrs. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya, Dhareswar Gardens, Mangalore. I am to ask that the secrecy of the interception may be strictly maintained.

D145
C.S. 181-37-6

Yours sincerely,

H Ramiyar.

B.T. Kesavaiengar Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

For perusal.

1st member
2nd member
Dewan
} very revealing

MS 26.7.38

JPL 27/7

MS 27/7

27-7-38

MS 27/7

MM 27/7/38

Enclosure to the Resy Comm's put up.

V.S. 29/7

Attd MS 29/7

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

Copy of a letter dated 12.7.38 from T. Siddalingiah B.A. B.L. President, The Mysore Congress, Balepet, Bangalore City, to Mrs. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya, Dhareswar Gardens, Mangalore.

"Your kind letter of 7th instant to hand. Mr. Gupta is here for the last 6 days. We have been in touch with the Government of Mysore - first I interviewed first member of Government on 8th and forced him to give me a reply within 24 hours which of course he did - by refusing to withdraw the deportation orders. I thought over the matter and want to break on this issue and start a fight by withdrawing our nominees from the Reforms Committee as a first step. To gain some time I have addressed another letter, though superfluous. On the 17th, we have a meeting of the Working Committee, before which the Government is asked to reply to our demands in the letter.

We are informing Sirdar Patel and the President about our Government's present attitude regularly, but not others. Today I have drafted a comprehensive list of the defaults on the government side and post the copies to all by tomorrow's mail. I will mail one to you for your information.

Times are getting very stiff. The atmosphere is getting dull and lifeless, for want of propaganda. I am going to start a tour immediately after our Working Committee on 23rd inst.

I will write again. Mr. Gupta says he will be here only for sometime till he sees the end of this suspense. I also heartily welcome it, though all my friends are not seeing eye to eye with me, but I will see things will improve and all are one in this respect and break on point of deportation.

CS 184

Secret
D.O.No.F.100/1938.

THE RESIDENCY MYSORE

DEWAN'S OFFICE
20 JULY 1938
No. 534

Bangalore, 26th July 1938

CS 15-38-6

My dear Kesavaiengar,

In continuation of my demi-official letter No.F.100/1938, dated the 23rd July 1938, I am desired to enclose for the information of the Government of Mysore a copy of a letter dated the 14th July 1938, from T. Siddalingiah, B.A.,B.L., President of the Mysore Congress, Balepet, Bangalore City, to Mrs. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya, Mangalore. I am to ask that the secrecy of the interception may be strictly maintained.

Yours Sincerely,
K Ramiyar

B.T. Kesavaiengar Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

For perusal

Dewan
1st member &
2nd member

MK
26.7.38

MD
26-7-38

MK
28/7/38

PR 27/7

Copy of a letter dated 14.7.38 from T. Siddalingaiya, President of the Mysore Congress, Bangalore, to Mrs. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya, Mangalore.

Dear Sister,

Now there is greater tension in the political atmosphere than ever before. The public life is being stultified by the slow repressive methods in the calm produced by the Patel settlement which was used only to stave off the tide then. Here our leaders were also liberal minded. Government took advantage of it. Then the Government instead of issuing a bilateral agreement signed by both parties as was decided by Sri Sirdar Patel, issued a unilateral Government communique and took credit for a generous attitude on their part - which in fact it was most grudging and was the result of forced circumstances.

2. Since then they have punished a number of village officers for having had previous participation in the political meetings - 25 of them.

3. The Government have been punishing individual Congress men because so soon they are unable to punish the institution which they have recently recognised - by prosecuting them for offences age old and petty, for the purpose of telling you all that the Mysore Congress is made up of such men. Here I may remind you that the Judiciary is the handmaid of executive.

4. Since the settlement, I applied for an interview with Dewan who refused the same to me and directed me to First Member. This is inexcusable because the same day he has given interview to press representatives.

5. In my interview with First Member, I was made to believe, that the Government would be sympathetic with the village officers and the deportees. Since then, the Dewan

gained time and made himself so bold as to make the noose stiff round our necks and entirely deny the very acts that the Government had promised to do.

6. Now it is definite that Government have lost all fear of the crisis that created the tension in those days and have definitely instructed their officers to thrash down the Congressmen at any and every opportunity and crush the Congress influence. Further, it let its votaries in the Representative Assembly and Legislative Council to vent their venom against the Congress wherever possible and allowed Gandhiji to be attacked as the direct cause of the Viduraswatha Tragedy.

7. In public, the capitalist non-Congressmen have observed the trend of the above events and are afraid that Sir Mirza will bring against them and refuse to permit us to hold our private meetings in their theatres or cinema halls.

8. The atmosphere is surcharged with fear and repression greater than ever before and open defiance of public opinion in the Government measures in public representative bodies; e.g. introduction of new press Bill.

9. The ban on the Prajamata and latterly Prajasakti is wholly devoid of sense or reason; again, the principle of punishing the individuals for grudge against the institution is in action. This punishment is in addition to deportation of its editor.

10. <u>In short there is no change of heart</u>. The shooting mentality is growing more acute every day. The Reforms Committee and that of Viduraswatha shooting are farces to hoodwink the foreigners, and to put off the immediate tension. Down here no man has an atom of faith in them. Sometimes the end and aim of the latter Committee expresses itself unconsciously through the mouth of its Chairman -

Sir Ramesam. Each of the Committee members is paid, I learn definitely, a centry per every day sitting all found. These two committees are again handmaids of the autocratic Dewan who is capable of adopting all methods to gain his ends of diplomacy.

11. The Government will not give a sympathetic ear, not even a reply to our resolutions of the Working Committee sent to them for consideration, regarding the points contained in them.

12. A magistrate goes out of his way to send all our Congress office records which had been seized by them in the course of the last movement, to the Ramesam Committee presumably to help the Committee to arrive at the conclusion that the Congress and the Mahatma Gandhi were responsible for the tragedy. When this fraud is brought to the notice of the Chief Secretary he says the Government cannot interfere in affairs of that court.

13. A direction is given in the letter of Inspector-General of Police to the Chief Secretary to lay the whole cause of shooting tragedy on the Congress and the Committee with the help of public prosecutor and the police and the funds at their disposal are seem to be leading in the same direction.

14. The Congress-minded public is feeling the atmosphere as choking and is in need of a relief unless it is prepared to be killed by a slow means of poisoning. The Government is more autocratic than ever before and is stiffening its rules of conduct and further carry on a malicious propaganda to highten themselves in the international public mind by spending fabulous amounts for dinners and advertisements.

15. The accompanying copy of our letter addressed to the Government will reveal our patience on the question of the deportation orders, and that we will consider the next stop

in that direction at our Working Committee meeting on 17th inst.

The non-withdrawal of deportation orders is only a last straw. The Government is going in the direction opposite to the spirit of the settlement. To stem it and redirect it in due time, is our sagacity and we cannot mark time under the present situation. If we do we will have discredited the whole movement and damaged the cause of all the Native States for which we have deservedly won the credit for pioneer.

16. The Government has got removed Shri Laxminarayan Rao from Mysore Bank's legal advisorship.

17. Cancelled legal contracts with Congress-minded business men.

18. Seized the prakasakti even in cantonment area presumably under the undue influence of the Mysore officers. Many more things which will be suffered by the men because of fear of the armed bureaucracy have been done.

Under the circumstances can we or can we not make the non-withdrawal of deportation a nominal, if not a real, issue, on which we must break off and start the agitation again, by withdrawing our nominees from the Reforms Committee or also from calling off our counsel from the Ramesam Committee.

Please give your valuable advice in the matter and oblige.

Sd Siddalingaiya
President, Mysore Congress

-Copy-

29th July 1938

Secret: 352/ C.S. 15-38-7
Encl

Dear Mr. Hamilton,

In continuation of my demi-official letter No.261/C.B.181-37-7 dated the 27th July 1938, I am desired to enclose herein, for your information, a copy of letters dated the 12th and 14th July from T. Siddalingiah to Mrs. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya received through the Residency. I am to request that the secrecy of the interception may be maintained.

Yours sincerely

Encl: 13

F. A. Hamilton, Esqr., C.I.E.,
Inspector General of Police in Mysore.